Relief Supplies for earthquake victims in U.S.S.R.

@1373—F. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government was drawn to the news item published in the daily "The Hindu" dated 26-6-1991 relating to the relief materials intended for helping earthquake victims in Armenia in U.S.S.R. lying dumped and uncared for in the Indian Red Cross Society; and

(b) if so, what actions are taken to send those relief materials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The news item was published in "The Hindu" dated 20-6-1991. The Indian Red Cross Society has intimated that after the earthquake on 8-12-1988, relief supplies consisting of blankets, stretchers, medical|surgical equipment were transported in four flights between 9th to 26th December, 1988. Both the Government of USSR and Soviet Red Cross were requested to indicate the additional needs so that the item could be despatched on priority. No further request was received by the Indian Red Cross Society. Meanwhile, the Indian Red Cross Society, continued to receive gifts upto mid-March, 1989 for the victims of the Armenian earthquake from various agencies of Government and private industry. The Indian Red Cross Society has taken up the disposal|utilisation of the items in stock in consultation with the Ministry of External Affairs.

@Previously Unstarred Question No. 1418, transferred from 31st July, 1991.

Filling up of the Post of an Assistant Librarian in the Central Secretariat Library

@@1373-G. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a post of Assistant Librarian in Assamese Section in the Central Secretariat Library;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the post is vacant for years together;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the post is reserved for SC and ST and as such remains vacant for want of qualified candidates from these categories of candidates;

(d) whether there is any proposal with Government for filling up the vacancy at the earliest by converting it into a general one in case it is in reserved quota; and

(e) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Waste Land

@@@1373—H. SHRI PASUMPON THA KIRRUTTINAN:
SHRI T. R. BALU:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state the area of waste lands available in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): The information is being colleted and will be laid on the Table of the House.

@@Previously Unstarred Question No 1675 transferred from 1st August, 1991.

@@@Previously Unstarred Question No. 1790, transferred from 2nd August, 1991.